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55694 7590 12/24/2009

DRINKER BIDDLE & REATH (DC)
1500 K STREET, N.W.
SUITE 1100
WASHINGTON, DC 20005-1209

EXAMINER

FRANKLIN, RICHARD B

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2181

DATE MAILED: 12/24/2009

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/533,219	02/27/2006	Shinya Kobayashi	47106-5002	9491

TITLE OF INVENTION: REMOVABLE DEVICE AND CONTROL CIRCUIT FOR ALLOWING A MEDIUM INSERTION

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	YES	\$755	\$300	\$0	\$1055	03/24/2010

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

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Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: **Mail Stop ISSUE FEE**
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INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Block 1 for any change of address)

55694 7590 12/24/2009
DRINKER BIDDLE & REATH (DC)
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I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)

(Signature)

(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/533,219	02/27/2006	Shinya Kobayashi	47106-5002	9491
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TITLE OF INVENTION: REMOVABLE DEVICE AND CONTROL CIRCUIT FOR ALLOWING A MEDIUM INSERTION

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nonprovisional	YES	\$755	\$300	\$0	\$1055	03/24/2010
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EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
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FRANKLIN, RICHARD B	218I	710-010000
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1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.

"Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. **Use of a Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list

(1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively,

(2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY AND STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent): Individual Corporation or other private group entity Government

4a. The following fee(s) are submitted:

4b. Payment of Fee(s): (Please first reapply any previously paid issue fee shown above)

Issue Fee
 Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)
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A check is enclosed.
 Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
 The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number _____ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)

a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27. b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

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Date _____

Typed or printed name _____

Registration No. _____

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS; SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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DRINKER BIDDLE & REATH (DC)				EXAMINER
1500 K STREET, N.W.				FRANKLIN, RICHARD B
SUITE 1100				ART UNIT
WASHINGTON, DC 20005-1209				2181
				PAPER NUMBER
				DATE MAILED: 12/24/2009

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)

(application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 822 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 822 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/533,219	KOBAYASHI ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	RICHARD FRANKLIN	2181	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to the preliminary amendment filed on 05 November 2009.

2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,5 and 34-47.

3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some* c) None of the:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.

3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

(a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date ____.

(b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

5. Notice of Informal Patent Application

2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date ____.

3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 3/17/09, 8/15/08, 4/29/05

7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment

4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material

8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. Other ____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Peter Sistare (Reg. No. 48,183) on 10 December 2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

Amend the Title of the Invention to read:

REMOVABLE DEVICE AND CONTROL CIRCUIT FOR ALLOWING A MEDIUM
INSERTION

Amend claim 1 to read:

A removable device which is attached/detached to/from a universal peripheral device interface of a computer executing a prescribed automatic startup program stored in a specified type of device allowing a medium insertion when the removable device is connected thereto, comprising:

 a controller means; and

 a storage device, wherein the storage device includes;

 a first storage region storing the automatic startup program, the first storage region being used for a first unit device; and

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a second storage region used for a second unit device, and
wherein

the controller means includes
a hub allocator means for allocating data exchange with the computer to
each of the first and second unit devices, and
a pseudo recognition means which, upon connection to the universal
peripheral device interface, first, sends the computer a first signal indicating that
the removable device is the specified type of device with respect to the first unit
device, and then, sends the computer an absence signal representing an
absence of medium at least once, and then sends a presence signal
representing a presence of the medium in response to an inquiry signal inquiring
the presence of medium to allow the automatic startup script to be automatically
executed by the computer, and, second sends the computer a second signal
used for accepting recognition with respect to the second unit device, and
wherein

each of the first and second unit devices serves as a unit to which the hub
allocator means allocates data exchange with the computer.

Amend claim 2 to read:

The removable device according to claim 1, wherein

the automatic startup program causes the computer to periodically send
the removable device a recognition extension signal, and wherein

the controller means includes a canceller means for receiving the recognition extension signal sent by the automatic startup program, and canceling the recognition of the second unit device by the computer when the recognition extension signal is interrupted for a specified period of time.

Amend claim 35 to read:

A removable device which is attached/detached to/from a universal peripheral device interface of a computer executing a prescribed automatic startup program stored in a specified type of device allowing a medium insertion when the removable device is connected thereto, comprising:

 a controller means; and

 a storage device, wherein

 the storage device includes:

 a first storage region storing the automatic startup program, the first storage region being used for a first unit device, and

 a second storage region used for a second unit device, and

 wherein

 the controller means includes

 a hub allocator means for allocating data exchange with the computer to each of the first and second unit devices, and

 a pseudo recognition means which, upon connection to the universal peripheral device interface, first, sends the computer a first signal indicating that the removable device is the specified type of device with respect to the first unit

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device, and then, sends the computer an absence signal representing an absence of medium at least once, and sends a presence signal representing a presence of the medium in response to an inquiry signal inquiring the presence of medium to allow the automatic startup script to be automatically executed by the computer, and, second, upon instruction from the automatic startup program, sends the computer a second signal used for accepting recognition with respect to the second unit device, and wherein

 said automatic startup program causes the computer to recognize the second unit device, and

 each of the first and second unit devices serves as a unit to which the hub allocator means allocates data exchange with the computer.

Amend claim 36 to read:

The removable device according to claim 35, wherein:

 the automatic startup program causes the computer to recognize the second unit device after the computer authenticates a user by password.

Amend claim 38 to read:

The removable device according to claim 35, wherein:

 the automatic startup program causes the computer to periodically send the removable device a recognition extension signal, and wherein
 the controller means includes

a canceller means for receiving the recognition extension signal sent by the automatic startup program, and canceling the recognition of the second unit device by the computer when the recognition extension signal is interrupted for a specified period of time.

Amend claim 41 to read:

A removable device which is attached/detached to/from a universal peripheral device interface of a computer executing a prescribed automatic startup program stored in a specified type of device allowing a medium insertion when the removable device is connected thereto, comprising:

a controller means;

a connection means for connecting an 'other peripheral device;

and a storage device, wherein

the storage device includes:

 a storage region storing the automatic startup program, the storage region being used for a first unit device, and wherein

 the controller means includes

 a hub allocator means for setting up the other peripheral device as a second unit device and allocating data exchange with the computer to each of the first and second unit devices, and

 a pseudo recognition means which, upon connection to the universal peripheral device interface, first, sends the computer a first signal indicating that the removable device is the specified type of device with respect to the first unit

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device, and then, sends the computer an absence signal representing an absence of medium at least once, and, upon instruction from the automatic startup program, sends a presence signal representing a presence of the medium in response to an inquiry signal inquiring the presence of medium to allow the automatic startup script to be automatically executed by the computer, and, second, sends the computer a second signal to allow the second unit device to be recognizable, and wherein

each of the first and second unit devices serves as a unit to which the hub allocator means allocates data exchange with the computer.

Amend claim 42 to read:

The removable device according to claim 41, wherein:

the automatic startup program causes the computer to periodically send the removable device a recognition extension signal, and wherein
the controller means includes
a canceller means for receiving the recognition extension signal sent by the automatic startup program, and canceling the recognition of the second unit device by the computer when the recognition extension signal is interrupted for a specified period of time.

Amend claim 44 to read:

A removable device which is attached/detached to/from a universal peripheral device interface of a computer executing a prescribed automatic startup program

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stored in a specified type of device allowing a medium insertion when the removable device is connected thereto, comprising:

- a controller means;
- a connection means for connecting an other peripheral device; and a storage device, wherein

- the storage device includes:
 - a storage region storing the automatic startup program, the storage region being used for a first unit device, and wherein

- the controller means includes
 - a hub allocator means for setting up the other peripheral device as a second unit device and allocating data exchange with the computer to each of the first and second unit devices, and

- a pseudo recognition means which upon connection to the universal peripheral device interface, first, sends the computer a first signal indicating that the removable device is the specified type of device with respect to the first unit device, and then, sends the computer an absence signal representing an absence of medium at least once, and, upon instruction from the automatic startup program, sends a presence signal representing a presence of the medium in response to an inquiry signal inquiring the presence of medium to allow the automatic startup script to be automatically executed by the computer, and, second, upon instruction from the automatic startup program, sends the computer a second signal used for accepting recognition with respect to the second unit device, and wherein

said automatic startup program causes the computer to recognize the second unit device, and

each of the first and second unit devices serves as a unit to which the hub allocator means allocates data exchange with the computer.

Amend claim 46 to read:

A control circuit incorporated into a peripheral device attached/detached to/from a universal peripheral device interface of a computer executing a prescribed automatic startup program stored in a specified type of device allowing a medium insertion when the peripheral device is connected thereto, comprising:

a pseudo recognition means which, upon connection to the universal peripheral device interface, first, sends the computer a first signal indicating that the peripheral device is the specified type of device with respect to a first unit device, and then, sends the computer an absence signal representing an absence of medium at least once, and then sends a presence signal representing a presence of the medium in response to an inquiry signal inquiring the presence of medium to allow the automatic startup script to be automatically executed by the computer, and, second, sends the computer a second signal used for accepting recognition with respect to a second unit device; and

a hub allocator means for allocating data exchange with the computer to each of the first and second unit devices, wherein

the automatic startup program is stored in a storage region used for the first unit device.

Amend claim 47 to read:

A control circuit incorporated into a peripheral device attached/detached to/from a universal peripheral device interface of a computer executing a prescribed automatic startup program stored in a specified type of device allowing a medium insertion when the peripheral device is connected thereto, comprising:

 a pseudo recognition means which, upon connection to the universal peripheral device interface, first, sends the computer a first signal indicating that the peripheral device is the specified type of device with respect to a first unit device, and then, sends the computer an absence signal representing an absence of medium at least once, and then sends a presence signal representing a presence of the medium in response to an inquiry signal inquiring the presence of medium to allow the automatic startup script to be automatically executed by the computer, and, second, upon an instruction from the automatic startup program, sends the computer a second signal used for accepting recognition with respect to a second unit device; and

 a hub allocator means for allocating data exchange with the computer to each of the first and second unit devices, wherein

 said automatic startup program causes the computer to recognize the second unit device, and

 the automatic startup program is stored in a storage region used for the first unit device.

DETAILED ACTION

2. Claims 1, 2, 5, and 34 – 47 are pending.

Drawings

3. The drawing(s) have been reviewed by the examiner and are found comply with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.81 to 1.85.

Information Disclosure Statement

4. The information disclosure statement filed 15 August 2008 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2), which requires a legible copy of each cited foreign patent document; each non-patent literature publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed. It has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to with regard to Jeffrey RICHTER, "1 Point lesson Q&A: Win32", MSJ ASCII, no. 58, December 18, 1998, page 148-151 has not been considered on the merits. An English translation of the above reference has not been submitted.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 1, 2, 5, and 34 – 47 are allowed.
6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1, 2, 5, and 34 are allowed because the prior art of record fails to teach or suggest alone or in combination ***a pseudo recognition means which, upon connection to the universal peripheral device interface, first, sends***

the computer a first signal indicating that the removable device is the specified type of device with respect to the first unit device, and then, sends the computer an absence signal representing an absence of medium at least once, and then sends a presence signal representing a presence of the medium in response to an inquiry signal inquiring the presence of medium to allow the automatic startup script to be automatically executed by the computer, and, second sends the computer a second signal used for accepting recognition with respect to the second unit device, as required by independent claim 1, in combination with the other claimed limitations (emphasis added). Support for the above limitations can be found in the originally filed specification on page 26 lines 8 – 24. US Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0003576 (hereinafter Konishi) teaches indicating that a device is of a specified type which stores an automatic startup script in response to an inquiry signal (Konishi; Figure 28). However, Konishi does not teach the presence and absence signals required by independent claim 1.

Claims 2, 5, and 34 are allowed because of its inheritance of the allowable subject matter of parent independent claim 1.

Claims 35 – 40 are allowed because the prior art of record fails to teach or suggest alone or in combination *a pseudo recognition means which, upon connection to the universal peripheral device interface, first, sends the computer a first signal indicating that the removable device is the specified type of device with respect to the first unit device, and then, sends the*

computer an absence signal representing an absence of medium at least once, and then sends a presence signal representing a presence of the medium in response to an inquiry signal inquiring the presence of medium to allow the automatic startup script to be automatically executed by the computer, and, second, upon instruction from the automatic startup program, sends the computer a second signal used for accepting recognition with respect to the second unit device, as required by independent claim 35, *in combination with the other claimed limitations* (emphasis added). Support for the above limitations can be found in the originally filed specification on page 26 lines 8 – 24. US Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0003576 (hereinafter Konishi) teaches indicating that a device is of a specified type which stores an automatic startup script in response to an inquiry signal (Konishi; Figure 28). However, Konishi does not teach the presence and absence signals required by independent claim 35.

Claims 36 – 40 are allowed because of its inheritance of the allowable subject matter of parent independent claim 35.

Claims 41 – 43 are allowed because the prior art of record fails to teach or suggest alone or in combination *a pseudo recognition means which, upon connection to the universal peripheral device interface, first, sends the computer a first signal indicating that the removable device is the specified type of device with respect to the first unit device, and then, sends the computer an absence signal representing an absence of medium at least*

once, and, upon instruction from the automatic startup program, sends a presence signal representing a presence of the medium in response to an inquiry signal inquiring the presence of medium to allow the automatic startup script to be automatically executed by the computer, and, second, sends the computer a second signal to allow the second unit device to be recognizable, as required by independent claim 41, *in combination with the other claimed limitations* (emphasis added). Support for the above limitations can be found in the originally filed specification on page 26 lines 8 – 24. US Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0003576 (hereinafter Konishi) teaches indicating that a device is of a specified type which stores an automatic startup script in response to an inquiry signal (Konishi; Figure 28). However, Konishi does not teach the presence and absence signals required by independent claim 41.

Claims 42 and 43 are allowed because of its inheritance of the allowable subject matter of parent independent claim 41.

Claims 44 and 45 are allowed because the prior art of record fails to teach or suggest alone or in combination *a pseudo recognition means which upon connection to the universal peripheral device interface, first, sends the computer a first signal indicating that the removable device is the specified type of device with respect to the first unit device, and then, sends the computer an absence signal representing an absence of medium at least once, and, upon instruction from the automatic startup program, sends a*

presence signal representing a presence of the medium in response to an inquiry signal inquiring the presence of medium to allow the automatic startup script to be automatically executed by the computer, and, second, upon instruction from the automatic startup program, sends the computer a second signal used for accepting recognition with respect to the second unit device, as required by independent claim 44, *in combination with the other claimed limitations* (emphasis added). Support for the above limitations can be found in the originally filed specification on page 26 lines 8 – 24. US Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0003576 (hereinafter Konishi) teaches indicating that a device is of a specified type which stores an automatic startup script in response to an inquiry signal (Konishi; Figure 28). However, Konishi does not teach the presence and absence signals required by independent claim 44.

Claim 45 is allowed because of its inheritance of the allowable subject matter of parent independent claim 44.

Claim 46 is allowed because the prior art of record fails to teach or suggest alone or in combination *a pseudo recognition means which, upon connection to the universal peripheral device interface, first, sends the computer a first signal indicating that the peripheral device is the specified type of device with respect to a first unit device, and then, sends the computer an absence signal representing an absence of medium at least once, and then sends a presence signal representing a presence of the*

medium in response to an inquiry signal inquiring the presence of medium to allow the automatic startup script to be automatically executed by the computer, and, second, sends the computer a second signal used for accepting recognition with respect to a second unit device, as required by independent claim 46, in combination with the other claimed limitations (emphasis added). Support for the above limitations can be found in the originally filed specification on page 26 lines 8 – 24. US Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0003576 (hereinafter Konishi) teaches indicating that a device is of a specified type which stores an automatic startup script in response to an inquiry signal (Konishi; Figure 28). However, Konishi does not teach the presence and absence signals required by independent claim 46.

Claim 47 is allowed because the prior art of record fails to teach or suggest alone or in combination *a pseudo recognition means which, upon connection to the universal peripheral device interface, first, sends the computer a first signal indicating that the peripheral device is the specified type of device with respect to a first unit device, and then, sends the computer an absence signal representing an absence of medium at least once, and then sends a presence signal representing a presence of the medium in response to an inquiry signal inquiring the presence of medium to allow the automatic startup script to be automatically executed by the computer, and, second, upon an instruction from the automatic startup program, sends the computer a second signal used for accepting*

recognition with respect to a second unit device, as required by independent claim 47, ***in combination with the other claimed limitations*** (emphasis added). Support for the above limitations can be found in the originally filed specification on page 26 lines 8 – 24. US Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0003576 (hereinafter Konishi) teaches indicating that a device is of a specified type which stores an automatic startup script in response to an inquiry signal (Konishi; Figure 28). However, Konishi does not teach the presence and absence signals required by independent claim 47.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- a. US Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0233533 – Teaches executing boot code from a memory to boot a computer.
- b. US Patent No. 6,654,797 – Teaches using a smartcard to store boot information for use by a computer when booting.
- c. US Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0226006 – Teaches loading boot code from a flash memory when booting a computer.

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d. US Patent No. 7,222,240 – Teaches a dual use removable peripheral which has two separate areas and a hub for communicating with a host computer.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to RICHARD FRANKLIN whose telephone number is (571)272-0669. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Alford Kindred can be reached on (571) 272-4037. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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